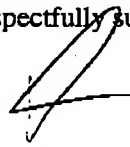


60,130-1885; 02MRA0391

Applicant's next step is to appeal this rejection. Applicant does not believe this rejection would survive an appeal conference, and given the increase in appeal filing fees, applicant would ask this case be passed to issue now, rather than after the necessity of preparing and filing an appeal brief. Such action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

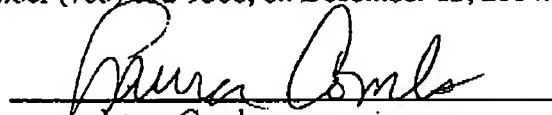


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Dated: December 13, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States patent and Trademark Office, fax number (703) 872-9306, on December 13, 2004.


Laura Combs